

HOUSE BILL 1744
By Fitzhugh

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 47;
Title 65 and Title 67, relative to electronic
communications and telecommunications.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-4-114, is amended by deleting
that section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

65-4-114.

(a) The authority has the power, after hearing, upon notice, by order in writing, to
require every public utility, as defined in § 65-4-101, to:

(1) Furnish safe, adequate, and proper service and to keep and maintain
its property and equipment in such condition as to enable it to do so;

(2) Establish, construct, maintain, and operate any reasonable extension
of its existing facilities where, in the judgment of the authority, such extension is
reasonable and practicable, and will furnish sufficient business to justify the
construction, operation, and maintenance of the same, and when the financial
condition of the public utility affected reasonably warrants the original
expenditure required in making such extension, or to abandon any service when,

in the judgment of the authority, the public welfare no longer requires the same;
and

(3) Provide periodic reports to the authority, in a time and manner
determined by the authority, concerning the following:

(A) Comparison of the charges for services by the utility relative
to other comparable utilities in comparable service areas;

(B) Comparison of the services offered by the utility relative to
other comparable utilities in comparable service areas; and

(C) If ordered by the authority in response to a report provided
under subdivision (3)(A) or (B), a detailed explanation, supported by
evidence satisfactory to the authority, of any significantly higher charges
or significantly reduced services provided by the utility relative to other
comparable utilities in comparable areas, as well as steps being taken by
the utility to remedy such discrepancies and a realistic timetable for
implementing such remedies.

(b) The authority is authorized to publish, on its website and by other suitable
means, any report or summary of a report provided to the authority under subdivision
(a)(3) of this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring
it.